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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/644,371

08/20/2003

Ahmet Yigit

ABTT-0352/B020690

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04/20/2005

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EXAMINER

FUREMAN, JARED

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/644,371

Applicant(s)

YIGIT ET AL.

Examiner

Jared J. Fureman

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/6/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Receipt is acknowledged of the IDS, on 10/6/2003, which has been entered in the file. Claims 1-20 are pending.

#### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 1 and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 5: "said" should be deleted, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "said barcode and sensor information".

Claim 8, line 12: "said" should be deleted, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "said barcodes and sensors".

Appropriate correction is required.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rothschild et al (US 5,946,661).

Re claims 1, 8 and 15: Rothschild et al teaches a system and method for visually displaying bottlenecks in a real-time, comprising: an application integration platform (operating at central processing 10) that receives plural types of data (time and quantity) from manufacturing and information systems via a network (11) infrastructure, said application integration platform analyzing plural types of data to determine bottleneck

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conditions; a process control server (central processing 10) that receives barcode and sensor information from at least one work center (work cells 12, 13, 14) and forwards said barcode and sensor information to said application integration platform; a database (while not specifically shown, central processing 10 necessarily includes the memory or storage necessary to operate on the time and quantity data) containing barcode and sensor information; and a graphical user interface (see figures 10, 11 and column 11, lines 46-53) that interfaces with said application integration platform to provide a visual display of bottlenecks determined based on said barcode and sensor information; wherein said at least one work center contains manufacturing machines (the work cells 12-14 contain manufacturing machines), and a controller (local processing units 20, 23) that receives said data from barcodes and sensors associated with said manufacturing machines and communicates said barcode and sensor data to said process control server; Re claims 2, 9 and 16: wherein said application integration platform further determines key performance indicators, said key performance indicators including at least one of: throughput time, manufacturing hours, work center utilization, man-hour capacity, planned vs. actual hours for work orders, and work in process (see figures 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18); Re claims 3, 10 and 17: wherein said key performance indicators are determined in accordance with at least one of a work order number, a work station identifier, a start time, an end time, an activity code, a problem code, employee information, a material code, a planned start time, and a planned completion time (see figures 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18); Re claims 4 and 11: wherein said graphical user interface further provides reports generated in response to user inputs, said user

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inputs including at least one of: a range of dates, a range of times, a selection of work station, a selection of work center, a selection of work unit, and an employee identifier (see figures 9-18); Re claims 5, 12 and 18: wherein bottlenecks are identified in said graphical user interface in accordance with a level of utilization (for example, throughput, yield, flow rate, etc.) of a particular resource, and wherein a detailed information regarding said particular resource is displaying in response to a user request (see figures 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18); Re claims 6, 13 and 19: wherein a meantime between failure analysis is provided, and wherein user-selectable control parameters are provided to adjust said meantime between failure analysis (for example, as shown in figures 9-18, a user may select a time period to analyze); Re claims 7, 14 and 20: wherein a work in progress analysis is provided (also see figures 1-3, 5-7, 9-19, column 2 line 63 - column 3 line 6, column 3 line 13-17, column 5 lines 3-7, 15-19, column 6 line 25 - column 7 line 61, column 8 lines 43-62, column 9 lines 5-8, column 9 line 64 - column 10 line 2, column 10 lines 42-53, column 11 lines 46-53, column 13 line 53 - column 14 line 11).

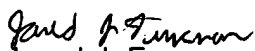
### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mammoser et al (US 6,816,747 B2), Gartstein (US 6,633,790 B2), Barto et al (US 6,564,113 B1), Chacon et al (US 6,473,721 B1), Van Der Vegt et al (US 6,144,893), Weaver et al (US 5,446,671), Gupta et al (US 5,260,868) all teach systems and method for identifying bottlenecks in manufacturing environments.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2391. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Jared J. Fureman  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2876

April 17, 2004